UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife Bureau of Commercial Fisheries

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For Release OCTOBER 4, 1965

NEWS NOTES FROM THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Trained "Porpoises" Actually are Dolphins, says Interior

Washington, D. C.: A new eight-page Department of the Interior leaflet on dolphins and porpoises says that "porpoises" trained to jump and do other tricks in oceanariums are actually bottlenose dolphins. The leaflet, written by Marine Biologist Craig Phillips of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, points out that, unlike certain dolphins, porpoises do not thrive in captivity.

Fisheries Center Leaflet No. 1, "Dolphins and Porpoises," discusses the life histories of these interesting aquatic mammals and gives identifying characteristics and drawings for 11 species. It can be obtained free from the Office of Information, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. 20240

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Plastic Pools used in Tuna Study

Honolulu, Hawaii: The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries in Honolulu has found a new use for plastic swimming pools.

Employees at the Bureau's Biological Laboratory in Honolulu are studying the behavior of tuna in captivity, and within hours of catching the fish on barbless hooks in the Pacific, the tuna are swimming free in plastic pools, 6 feet deep and 24 feet in diameter.

Already about a dozen scientific papers have been written, each revealing previously unknown facets of tuna behavior. From the broad base of information obtained may come new and improved methods of catching tuna.

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Rare Trumpeter Swans Nest East of the Rockies

Martin, S. D.: Fifteen trumpeter swan cygnets were produced this year on the Lacreek National Wildlife Refuge in South Dakota, says the Department of the Interior. This is the only place east of the Rocky Mountains where the rare birds nest in the wild.

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Early Teal Season Attracts Sportsmen

Minneapolis, Minn.: The Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife estimates that between 180,000 and 190,000 permits were issued for the experimental early teal hunting season this year in the Central and Mississippi Flyways.

Interest in the special season was highest in Minnesota, where 55,000 permits were issued, and lowest in Wyoming, where fewer than 600 were issued.

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1965 Harvest of Alaska Fur Seals Ends

Anchorage, Alaska: The Department of the Interior says the 1965 harvest of Alaska fur seals in the Pribilof Islands, was 51,020 skins: 41,216 males, 6,352 immature females, and 3,452 mature females. In addition, about 1,500 skins were taken for experimental purposes.

Interior's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries manages and harvests the fur seal herds. It cures the sealskins before shipping them to a processor. Seven-eighths of the harvest goes to the Fouke Fur Company, Greenville, S. C., for processing and sale for the United States account; one-eighth of the harvest is set aside for experimental processing by interested firms.

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Refrigerated Fish Hatchery Truck Scheduled for Southwest

Albuquerque, N. M.: A new, long-range, large-capacity fish distribution truck is being tested by the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

The unit, scheduled for use throughout the Bureau's Southwestern Region, where temperatures occasionally reach 120 degrees, has a refrigeration system to maintain proper water temperatures and keep the fish in good condition during long trips through desert areas before reaching streams and lakes where they will be planted.

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Per Capita Consumption of Fishery Products Increases Slightly

Washington, D. C.: The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries says preliminary indications for 1965 are that per capita consumption of fishery products will increase slightly this year.

Per capita consumption is expected to be 10.7 pounds, up from the 10.6-pound average of the previous 3 years.

Increased harvests of certain species is believed the reason for the slight increase.

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